

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Gaming device manufacturers strive to make gaming devices that provide as much enjoyment and excitement as possible. Wagering machines such as slot machines are games of luck demanding minimal skill from the player. Card games such as blackjack and poker, however, include luck and a reasonable amount of strategy or knowledge of the game. For instance, the player is lucky to receive four aces in poker. The player should also know that it is unwise to forego three-of-a-kind to play for a straight in poker or split two ~~ten's~~ tens in blackjack.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one embodiment of a game with multiple rounds, the player is permitted to discard the negative impact card under certain conditions, i.e. limited number of cards, an additional wager, ~~etc.~~ etc. In one embodiment, the player is permitted to discard a limited number of cards in all the rounds. In another embodiment, the player is permitted to discard a decreasing number of cards in each round such as two cards in the first round, one card in the next round, and no cards in any round thereafter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a table poker game, in one embodiment of a stud poker game, some of the cards are dealt face-up so that the competing players know if one or more of the players receive a negative impact card. This knowledge assists the players in determining their bets when each card is dealt. The negative impact card will decrease the number of possible combinations available to the player and decrease the probability of obtaining a winning hand. In Fig. 8, for example, in one embodiment of a five-card stud table poker game, the dealer deals a Two of Clubs 82a and a Two of Hearts 82b to the player face down ~~in one embodiment~~. However, the next two cards, a Two of Spades 82c and a

Negative Joker 82d, in one embodiment, are dealt face up, thereby revealing the negative impact card to the other players. In such a situation, the other players can assume that the best hand that the player who was dealt the negative impact card can hold is a Four-of-a-Kind, a hand which can be beaten by a Straight Flush or Royal Flush. In contrast, when cards other than the negative impact card are revealed to the other players as they are dealt, the value of the cards to the player receiving them is more difficult to assess. Each card may be crucial to a winning hand regardless of its value; however, knowing that a player has a negative impact card and cannot discard the card in a stud poker game allows the other players to adjust their betting accordingly.